

APR 29 2002

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 USC 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application No.	09/091,508
Filing Date	October 30, 1998
First Named Inventor	CONNORS
Group Art Unit	1723
Examiner Name	M. Ocampo
Attorney Docket No	168567/PALL

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 CFR 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d). Instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000); 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

**1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**

- a.  Previously submitted
  - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered.)
  - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
  - iii.  Other:
- b.  Enclosed
  - i.  Amendment/Reply
  - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
  - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv.  Form PTO-1449
  - v.  Copies of documents listed in Form PTO-1449
  - vi.  Other:

**2. Miscellaneous**

- a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103 for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required.)
- b.  Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27
- c.  Other:

**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a.  The following fees are enclosed:
  - i.  RCE fee of \$740.00 (large entity) required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
  - ii.  One-month extension of time fee of \$110.00 (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
  - iii.  Suspension of action fee of \$130.00 (37 CFR 1.17(i))
  - iv.  Other:

**TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED** \$740.00

- b.  Check in the amount of \$740.00 enclosed
- c.  The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above fees to Deposit Account No. 12-1216
- d.  The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the above fees or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 12-1216

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Shannon Schemel	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	47,926
Signature	Shannon Schemel	Date	April 29, 2002

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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 168567/PAB  
G. L. [Signature]

**PATENT**  
Attorney Docket No. 168567/PAB

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

CONNORS et al.

Application No. 09/091,508

Art Unit: 1723

Filed: October 30, 1998

Examiner: M. Ocampo

For: **SEPARATION ARRANGEMENT**

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 15, 2002, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Copies of pages showing the requested changes are attached.

**AMENDMENTS**

*IN THE CLAIMS:*

**RECEIVED**  
MAY 02 2002  
**TC 1700**

Replace the indicated claim with:

1. (Four Times Amended) A separation element for separating one or more components from a fluid flowing through the separation element, the separation element comprising:

(a) two or more hollow pleated pack sections, each pack section having a plurality of pleats, wherein the plurality of pleats includes roots, crowns, legs extending between the roots and the crowns, an inner periphery at the roots defining an upstream side, and an outer periphery at the crowns defining a downstream side and wherein each pleat has a height  $h$  greater than  $(D-d)/2$  where  $D$  is the outer diameter at the outer periphery of the plurality of pleats and  $d$  is the inner diameter at the inner periphery of the plurality of pleats, a retainer disposed around the pleats, first and second ends, and a porous medium comprising a polymeric material or a glass fiber material;